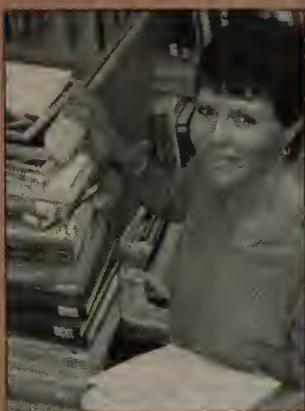


SPOKE

Conestoga College, Kitchener

September 18, 2000

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Name change a problem

By Tracy Ford

The Doon Student Association, acting as Conestoga Students Incorporated, has until Oct. 2 to collect 2,700 student votes approving the name change.

Brad Whiteford, vice-president of operations for the student association, said he is confident that enough students will hand in the proxy form to approve the name change.

"I'm not planning on having a vote for no," he said. "I am 99 per cent sure it is going to happen."

Last spring the former DSA executive decided to change the name during a board of directors (BOD) meeting March 29 on the understanding that the change could be approved by a vote of the members of the board of directors.

A new lawyer was acquired to review the situation and she advised that the DSA must have the change approved by 51 per cent of the student membership which is made up of full-time students.

"They (last year's executive) decided that changing the name would be worthwhile for the future growth of the student association," said Whiteford.

T-shirts, student day planners and advertisements were purchased before the mistake was identified and now the CSI logo appears all over campus but the name still stands in limbo.

"I don't think we were as well informed last year of the legal requirements we'd have to live up to when changing our name. It's not as simple as filling out a form and sending it to the courthouse," said Whiteford.

The association was told the acronym CSI could be used in place of DSA until the voting is completed.

"We were under the impression we could use CSI, of course that stands for Conestoga Students Inc.," said Whiteford.

He said the association has had no students raising concerns about the name.

"We branded everything with CSI now because our experience has been so far with the proxy, that there is no real discussion when this comes up," he said.

The association approached most of this year's first-year students during orientation week and received 1,000 proxies approving the change.

"It wouldn't have made sense to come to the orientation session as DSA and three weeks later when we finally get this proxy out and all of a sudden being CSI," said Whiteford.



Brad Whiteford, vice-president of operations for the student association, signs his proxy form to change the association's name and amend bylaws.

(Photo by Tracy Ford)

He said the first-year students were approached first because during the last week of August they would pass through the Sanctuary to get their student cards anyway.

"I need to approach 50 per cent of the student population and I need to approach who I can, where I can, when I can," said Whiteford.

Now, he said, the association has to approach the second- and third-year students before Oct. 2.

"We are not letting out of our sights second- and third-year students. Those are the people I need right now," said Whiteford. "It's up to the next month and a half. If I have to go door to door to sell this, I'll sell it. It's not going to be a hard sell. I haven't had a hard sell yet."

He said the proxy forms will be sent out with BOD members asking the members to approach their classes. Whiteford said he might have to send forms to program coordinators to reach all the students.

In case of a no vote the association would have spent money on T-shirts, day planners and the logo which would then be no longer valid.

"We have taken a big risk by coming into this new school year by operating using CSI," said Whiteford.

If it were possible Whiteford

would have preferred the vote had been held at the end of last year but he said the only times when students are together is during exams and orientation week.

"I agree that it's odd to go ahead with the branding, the logoing and the name change for a public appearance, but I could put that down in confidence that we are going to get 2,700 to 3,000 proxies," Whiteford said.

The actual proxy form has two sections that the student association wants students to vote on. Only the first section outlines the name change from DSA to CSI while the second section includes changes to bylaws.

The DSA wants to reduce the number of BOD members to 50 and they want to change majority voting from half plus one to two-thirds of board members.

They also want to change the written notice of upcoming meetings to each voting member of the BOD from seven days to 14 days.

Each section of the proxy is voted on separately which means a student can approve the bylaw changes without approving the name change.

"I'm not telling anyone to vote yes or no. They have to look at the first section and make up their own minds," said Whiteford.

Ian James let go by college

By Julie Porter

After some discussion, Ian James, director of the Conestoga recreation centre for three years, was relieved of his duties on July 19.

"The college felt James and the college were going in different directions," said Jack Fletcher, director of student services. "It was felt we needed a different leader to get us to where we want to be."

He said he feels the college must have a strong connection with the community and should promote not only student use but also public use of the facility.

"We need someone who does have much more connection with this particular community. The community connection didn't seem to be part of the role he was playing," said Fletcher.

James could not be located for his comment despite many attempts by Spoke staff.

Students using wrong lockers

By Michelle Goring

New and returning students should check their locker numbers to ensure they have accessed the right one.

Security services is becoming concerned with the number of students reporting they cannot get into their lockers because locks have already been placed on them.

"It's usually a case of a student having misread the locker number and putting a lock on it," said supervisor of security services Al Hunter.

To deal with the problem, security services has issued warnings on all the reported lockers. If the lock is not removed within a sufficient amount of time, the lock is cut and removed.

If any students have a problem getting into their lockers, they are to report to security services, which is located beside the cafeteria stairwell on Level 2 just inside Door 4.

Security would like to remind students to lock their car doors and close their windows when parking on campus as parking decals as well as other items can be stolen.

Networking Opportunities at Career Fair

WHO SHOULD ATTEND?

- ☆ Everyone should attend! First, second and third year students are encouraged to attend

PRESENTATION

- ☆ Dress and conduct yourself professionally
- ☆ Exude enthusiasm and self-confidence; be positive

PREPARATION

- ☆ Visit the Student Employment office for a list of participating organizations
- ☆ Research employer information available in Student Employment office and on the internet
- ☆ Target potential employers
- ☆ Prepare a list of questions to ask employers

WHAT IS IT?

- ☆ An opportunity for students and alumni to network with potential employers
- ☆ An opportunity to investigate and research career options
- ☆ An event to obtain information from employers on:
 - Career Opportunities Job Requirements
 - Salary Expectations Industry Growth
 - Educational Requirements Industry Trends
 - Corporate Culture Skills and Qualifications

☆ FREE

Transportation!

Leaves from Door #2	Leaves the Auditorium
9:30 am	11:00 am
10:30 am	12:00 pm
11:30 am	2:00 pm
1:30 pm	3:30 pm

CAREER FAIR

- ☆ Get acquainted with over 250 North American employers

- ☆ Learn about career opportunities

- ☆ Start your job search by networking



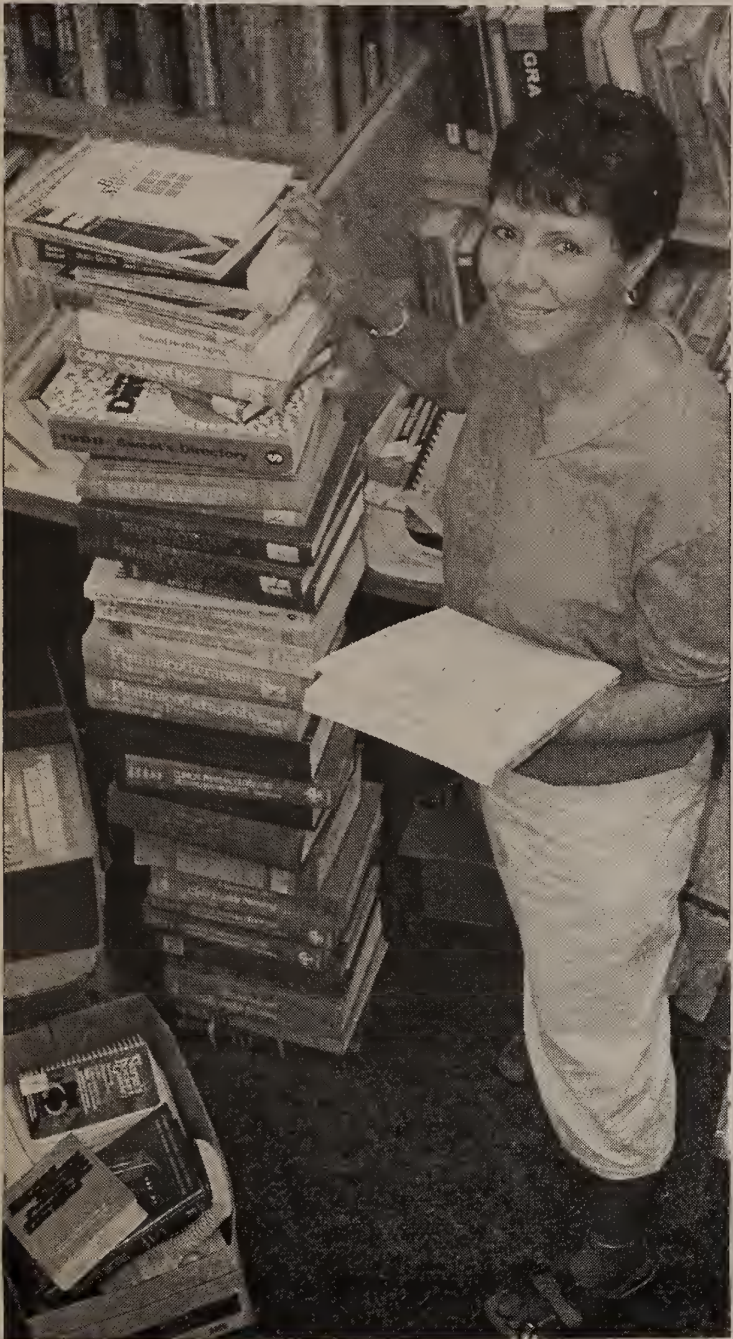
- ☆ Free admission with Student/Alumni ID from sponsoring institutions (Conestoga College, Wilfrid Laurier, U of Waterloo, U of Guelph)

- ☆ Free transportation throughout the day

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Anita Fortes-Wilkinson, library technician, goes through some of the 1,500 books that will be free to students.

(Photo by Tammy Somerville)

LRC cleans house with book give-away

By Tammy Somerville

For students looking for a bargain on books, the Learning Resource Centre is giving away roughly 1,500 deletions.

Starting Monday, Sept. 18 at 9 a.m., the centre will allow students to pick and choose through the mountain of hard and soft cover texts available.

They will be located in a room next to Roasters gourmet coffee shop. The books are either older editions, are obsolete or are donations that the LRC already has or has no use for.

Included in the treasure trove of publications are research, reference books and a few how-tos. There are volumes on taxes, tax laws, tax shelters, tax deductions, tax rebates, tax reductions and tax write-offs.

Books on anything and everything you wanted to know or not know about physics and marketing are also available.

In addition, there are plenty of books for nursing students that deal with everything from the pharmacological aspects of nursing to surgical and psychiatric nursing.

Space has been made in the LRC for an array of new books as well as some new audio-visual equip-

ment and six computer stations.

Returning students might notice the database Newscan is missing from the LRC. The Canadian database consisting of 17 English language newspapers and some French language papers ended its year-long trial in March. Cathy Potvin, co-ordinator of information services for the LRC, says the program was not renewed because of the cost.

"The price was more than two times what we were quoted," she says.

The centre had been asking for student feedback during the trial but even though there was little, Potvin says the majority of it was positive.

The LRC began using Proquest on trial at the same time as Newscan. Although its trial period ended Dec. 1, the LRC has decided to continue using it. It is similar to Newscan except its databases index magazine articles on many different topics ranging from business, nursing to technical areas.

The variety the system offers and the fact that the LRC budgeted for it were reasons to keep Proquest. Another reason was that different databases can be added to it so staff and students will not have to learn another system.

Student applications up 7.2% at the college

There were 10,221 full-time applicants this year

By Petra Lampert

Applications to Conestoga College have increased, according to a report done by the Ontario College Application Service.

OCAS reports 687 more applicants, resulting in a 7.2 per cent increase, over last year in full-time applications to Conestoga.

There were 10,221 full-time applicants this year, compared to 9,534 last year.

Jennifer Leith, associate registrar at the college, said the increase in applicants to Conestoga is a result of the college's reputation and its ranking in the Key Performance Indicators survey.

KPIs are annual surveys of Ontario's 25 colleges that establish benchmarks in excellence. Conestoga has maintained a No.1 position overall two years in a row.

"Our reputation has been excellent for years," Leith said. "Our No.1 status is out there and people know about it."

She said Conestoga also has one of the highest academic

entrance standards.

Leith said the majority of programs at Conestoga are full.

"We still have room in the general metal machinist program at Guelph and the general arts and science technology stream program at Doon," she said.

At present there are 14 spaces

"Our reputation has been excellent for years."

Jennifer Leith,
associate registrar

remaining in the metal machinist program at Guelph and nine spaces in the general arts and science technology stream program at Doon.

Leith added traditionally the business programs fill reasonably well.

The college saw a 15 per cent increase (2,537 more students) in full-time applicants and a 15 per cent increase (403 more students) in applications for continuing education (part-time) programs

between 1996 and 1999.

During the same time period training and development programs had 627 more applications, resulting in an increase of 500 per cent.

Leith said the large increase in applicants to these programs is in part because Conestoga recognized an increased demand in industry and began offering more computer training programs for students.

Many people from local industries and businesses come to Conestoga to take these programs.

Training and development programs are less than a year in duration and include Web design specialist, Microsoft certified systems engineer, information technology professional and CNC programmer operator.

Leith said there are about 5,000 registered full-time and training and development students at the college and over 30,000 registered part-time students.

"Now our focus will switch to our January and February intakes," said Leith. "We have a number of programs that start then."

Virtual college coming to a monitor near you

By Paul Kostal

A virtual college may be a reality in the future.

Larry Rechsteiner, Conestoga College's director of planning, said one of the goals for the college's new five-year plan will be a move towards the creation of an online college.

That would mean students would be able to take part, or all of their program on the Internet instead of attending traditional classrooms.

Rechsteiner said the change would be gradual and would likely take many years to implement based on results of an environmental survey taken from students, faculty and administration last winter.

"We've found that most people still want a bricks and mortar building to come to," he said, "but as children are more exposed to the Internet at younger ages, that could change."

Rechsteiner said the most immediate changes could be in the continuing education department of the

college, where individual courses could be offered online.

Kevin Mullan, vice-president of finance and administration operations, agreed with Rechsteiner.

He said the biggest gains in implementation would immediately come from the continuing

"We've found that most people still want a bricks and mortar building to come to."

Larry Rechsteiner,
director of planning

education division of the college.

Mullan said the creation of online courses would benefit those who want to get a college education but can't afford the transportation or time requirements of a traditional class.

Mullan also stressed that the college would never go completely online.

"Certain people's learning styles

differ," he said. "The Internet may not meet some people's needs. Some people still need contacts."

Mullan foresees an online program where certain parts of a program, or even parts of a single class are available to the student online.

The first step the college is taking in the new direction is letting the students telnet into the college's network from home using their existing Internet connections. This should be available in the coming months.

According to Mullan, the college currently spends about \$3 million a year on information technology, and that amount would increase dramatically to set up the necessary network to organize the online classes.

Rechsteiner stressed that the college is only starting the process of creating an online college.

When the new five-year strategic plan is finally completed later this year more concrete information will be available, but the creation of an online college is still many years away, he said.

Reach new heights...
Read Spoke!

A black and white line drawing of a bookstore scene. On the left, a person is climbing a bookshelf labeled 'Book list'. In the center, a man in a cap and a woman with long hair are looking at books. On the right, a man with a beard and a woman with long hair are looking at books. The word 'Bookstore' is written at the top.

SPOKE is mainly funded from September to May by a payment from Conestoga Students Inc. (CSI), formerly called the Doon Student Association, in exchange for the insertion of advertising in the paper. The views and opinions expressed in this newspaper do not necessarily reflect the views of Conestoga College or the CSI. Advertisers in SPOKE are not endorsed by the CSI unless their advertisements contain the CSI logo. SPOKE shall not be liable for any damages arising out of errors in advertising beyond the amount paid for the space. Unsolicited submissions must be sent to the editor by 9:30 a.m. Monday. Submissions are subject to acceptance or rejection and should be clearly written or typed; a WordPerfect or MS Word file would be helpful. Submissions must not contain any libellous statements and may be accompanied by an illustration (such as a photograph).

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Students express reluctance to leave campus for food

New shops across street don't pose threat to cafeteria

By Sanja Musa

Opinion among Conestoga students on the effect the new Tim Hortons coffee shop and McDonald's restaurant, which are being built across the street from the campus, is going to have on school cafeterias seems to be divided.

Ten students surveyed on this issue predict the business will not significantly affect the school cafeterias.

Another seven students predicted Tim Hortons and McDonald's would affect cafeteria business at the college.

"I like Tim Hortons' stuff. I thought there was one here on the campus and I was really disappointed when I found there wasn't," said Colin Wood, a first-year computer programming student. "I think the coffee sales in school cafeterias will go down, but McDonald's will not have that much of an effect on Harvey's."

Karen Muhlbock, a first-year nursing student, also thinks

McDonald's will not offer anything that the school cafeterias have not offered yet.

"I will probably just keep on buying my food and drinks here, because it's closer and because McDonald's is the same as Harvey's," she said. "It's just kind of a hassle to go over there when we can find everything here."

Jonathan Dulmage, a first-year electronic engineering student, shares a similar opinion to Muhlbock's.

"I don't think I'll go out to purchase food and beverages so far when we have the same choice inside the school," said Dulmage. "Especially, I wouldn't go there in the mornings on the way to the school, because the drive-through is going to be packed with all the students. It's easier to pop in here and grab a coffee."

Still, Mike Mlanski welcomes a change.

"Stuff here gets boring after a while," Mlanski, a first-year mechanical engineering student,

said. "I'll definitely go to buy at Tim Hortons and McDonald's."

Lee Abbott, a third-year business management student, said, "I wouldn't go over there just for a coffee. But I might go to McDonald's every now and then."

The most impact the competition could have on school cafeterias would be during hours when people are coming to school or returning home, according to Abbott.

"A lot of people have enough time to go out for lunch anyway," said Mike Pangman, a first-year materials management student. "Yes, I'll go too, but I don't think it'll make business in here suffer too much."

Preet Kochar, a third-year business management student, said McDonald's and Tim Hortons will have their share of business, but that will not affect school cafeterias' sales.

"It's going to be more convenient, especially with the new gas station close by," he said. "But, I don't think our cafeterias will suffer that much in terms of their profits."

Ticketed



Clint Tennant, from Wakenhut Ltd., a security company in Kitchener, places a warning on a car while patrolling Lot 8 by the student/client services building on Sept. 7. The previous day he issued approximately 100 warnings.

(Photo by Petra Lampert)

Web site wants to give women accurate sexual health info

By Julie Porter

Students looking for information on sex and sexual health can find it anywhere these days, but Sunnybrook and Women's College Hospital wants to make sure that the information out there is accurate and available from reliable sources.

A new web site, womenshealth-matters.ca, launched Sept. 5, aims to provide comprehensive information on birth control and sexual health along with a wide range of health issues, including diabetes, cancer, menopause, cardiovascular health and nutrition.

Sheryl Mitchell, director of Women's Health Partnerships at Sunnybrook and Women's College Hospital, said that accu-

rate and evidence-based information is important when it comes to health issues.

"We as a hospital have a long history of providing health information for women, and as experts in the field of women's health felt we could reach a much larger audience through the Internet," said Mitchell.

Because women often look for information on the Internet about their health, it is important that the information does not come from dubious sources.

Mitchell said the web site is especially useful for college students who may find themselves, for the first time, in a position of deciding which birth control method is appropriate for them.

"Sexual health and birth con-

trol are very important issues for college-level students. We think it is incredibly important that women can make informed decisions."

The web site is geared to women's health because the hospital has expertise in the field of women's health, but it hopes that men also access the site and take greater responsibility in their partner's reproductive choices.

The web site also offers a section on frequently asked questions and keeps up-to-date accounts of news surrounding developments in health related fields.

"We are a Canadian resource focus," said Mitchell, "one I hope students and the general public will use."

New program breaks students' learning barriers

By Sanja Musa

Conestoga's special needs services has doubled its intake of students with learning disabilities, after a program to accommodate students to the college environment and familiarize them with the services available to them was held in July.

Twenty-four students have approached special needs services this year compared to 11 last year.

The PASS program, funded through the Learning Opportunities Task Force of the Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities, was held at Conestoga College from July 1 to July 4.

According to Rick Casey, transition counsellor with special needs services, from 31 students who committed to attend the four-day event, 24 participated through all four days.

The program is a new component added to the four-year Learning Opportunities Project, a pilot project designed to help students with specific learning disabilities make the transition from high school to post-secondary education. The program is in its second year.

The students also obtained hands-on computer skills and practised self-advocacy skills to increase awareness of what's causing a block and to find effective ways around it easier than if they chose not to attend the PASS program.

"Elementary data's showing that students with writing disabilities, for example, who are working with us, are more successful than those students with similar disabilities who choose not to work with the program," Casey said. "That's pretty rudimentary statistics at this point, because we now have to track the next group of students to

get the keener picture what happens in the process."

The students were also asked to complete a pre- and post-program evaluation.

"If nothing else, the overall evaluation of the PASS from the students shows they have increased understanding of what services are offered and increased sense of the program usage," Casey said. "Overall, we're very pleased. Not just because we're subjectively saying it works, but because we have some data and research that is substantially based on the students themselves."

Academic requirements for students with learning disabilities are not lower in any aspect and their chances of acceptance into any program of study offered by the college are not made easier for them.

Prior to attending the PASS program, each student had to be already accepted into a program of study at Conestoga College beginning in September 2000.

Casey said he'd like people to understand that new ways to help students with learning disabilities don't lower the college's standards in any way.

"All the students with learning disabilities must have a level of competency and admission established in the college as any other student. How they get there is what makes a difference," he said.

He also said that a majority of students don't want to water down the worth of their diplomas. They want to meet the same standards as any other student.

"If their diplomas were not the same quality and their course as demanding as anyone else's, then we would be robbing our students of their independence. And that would be the worst of all," Casey said.

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CSI gives away 1,200 burgers at party

By Dwight Irwin

Over 1,200 Conestoga students were fed and watered at CSI's annual Pond Party, on Wednesday, Sept. 6.

Tracy Evans, vice-president of student life, with the Doon Students Association acting as Conestoga Students Inc., said 1,200 burgers purchased for the Pond Party were sold out by 2 p.m.

"We had great attendance, and everybody had a good time," the second-year management studies student said.

The purpose of the Pond Party is to "let people know who we are," Evans said.

To help offset some of the cost of the event, alcohol was served at the Pond Party. Although not sure how much money was raised through alcohol sales, Evans said students went through "a lot of beer."

Members of the student association executive and board of directors were not the only ones flipping burgers.

College president John Tibbits, vice-president of finance and administration operations, Kevin Mullan and other Conestoga employees helped serve the hungry students.

Evans said the other orientation events held during the first week of school were also well attended. The Sanctuary was full when comedian Rick Bronson entertained the crowd, on Thursday, Sept. 7.

"He cut up the audience, but they loved it," Evans said.

Casino Day, on Tuesday, Sept. 5, gave gamblers a chance to win big at blackjack and roulette. Each student was given 10 chips and when finished gambling, they redeemed them for prizes.

"We had great attendance, and everybody had a good time."

Tracy Evans,
vice-president of CSI



Cliff the Condor (left) welcomes back Rebecca Carley and Becky Olsen, both second-year law and security students, and Sarah Walters, a first-year early education student, during the CSI's pond party on Sept. 6. The CSI gave away 1,200 burgers to hungry students during the three-hour party.

(Photo by Dwight Irwin)

Parking problems minimal

By Michelle Goring

Parking has always been an issue for Conestoga College, but thanks to the college's newly built parking lot, this year began without any major problems.

"Thanks to the 360 additional parking spaces in Parking Lot 1 this year, we came very close to accommodating everyone," said supervisor of security services Al Hunter. "It was a fairly normal start-up."

New Bus Route 61 from Cambridge has also helped to keep the parking situation under control this year as many students are taking the bus rather than driving.

There was some confusion, however, due to changes made in some of the parking lot designations. Parking Lot 3, which had previously been designated as daily parking, has been changed to annual parking.

And Parking Lot 2 has been changed to annual because drivers using lots 2 and 10 (which were interchangeable) were overflowing Lot 2 because it was closer to the school.

"Thanks to 360 additional parking spaces in parking lot 1 this year, we came very close to accommodating everyone."

Al Hunter,
security supervisor

This means a student must have purchased an annual pass to be allowed to park in either Lot 2 or Lot 3. Parking Lot 1 is designated

semester and daily parking.

Security guard Amanda Macy, who was stationed at the entrance of Parking Lot 12 during the first week, had a problem with a number of students who did not understand the parking lot designations.

"I had a lot of students trying to get into this lot without the proper parking pass," Macy said.

"Most people were pretty good about it and I just told them where they could park for the day. Other people got really angry and tried to drive around me. Some even tried to drive through me."

Students who hold a parking pass for Parking Lot 3 may have been confused by the presence of parking machines in the lot.

The machines from Parking Lot 1, which were placed in Parking Lot 3 temporarily, have since been returned.

Trimming away



Barry Gurski, from physical resources does pruning behind the student/client services building on Sept. 8.

(Photo by Petra Lampert)

Survival week hits Doon for first time

By Derek Lester

Conestoga College students at Doon campus will get the chance to participate in a new theme week this September.

This is the first year for College Survival Week at Conestoga.

The College Survival Week was created because every month has some type of awareness week except September, so the Doon Student Association acting as Conestoga Students Inc. decided September should have one as well.

During the College Survival Week, which runs from Monday, Sept. 18 to Friday, Sept. 22, a different activity or awareness is

planned to inform students on issues to be aware of. The week's activities are also planned to allow students to have some fun.

"It will be similar to the television show, except people will be voted out of the game every hour."

Ramy Micheal,
CSI vice-president
of student affairs

On Monday a survivor game is planned.

"It will be similar to the television show, except people will be

voted out of the game every hour," said Ramy Michael, CSI vice-president of student affairs.

A money management theme will be held on Tuesday.

Wednesday will have a sexually transmitted disease awareness theme, and Thursday will have a date rape awareness theme.

Friday will consist of a movie or some other fun activity.

More information will be posted on the CSI Web site.

Other theme weeks planned for this year include Drug and Alcohol Awareness Week in October, Eating Disorders Awareness Week in November and Sleep Deprivation and Exam Prep Week in December.

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Physical Activity Guide

to Healthy Active Living

Group tackles debts

By Tracy Ford

The average student loan debt of a Canadian student graduating this year will be over \$19,000, according to the Canadian Alliance of Student Associations, a group of 18 student associations which try to bring post-secondary students' concerns to political leaders.

The association was formed in response to the need for students to be legitimately represented to federal and inter-provincial levels of government.

CASA announced this year's campaign to fight rising tuition costs and student indebtedness on Sept. 1 and Mark Kissel, the association's national director, said this year's strategy will bring post-secondary education concerns to the forefront of the federal agenda.

"CASA is about real students tackling real problems with real solutions," he said.

From Oct. 30 to Nov. 4 CASA is holding a national campaign conference where student leaders from across the country meet in Ottawa to speak with cabinet ministers, opposition critics, MP's and education sector stakeholders. Kissel said the meeting will be the biggest grassroots student lobbying event of the year.

"Tuition has more than doubled from coast to coast since 1990," said Kissel adding in some provinces tuition has tripled since 1990.

The association, which started in 1995, has already made a large impact on the federal education policy, said Kissel. CASA was

instrumental in the government's decision to augment the tax deduction limit for scholarships from \$500 to \$3,000.

According to CASA a child born this year will end up with a \$100,000 debt if tuition keeps rising at the rate that it has over the past decade. Kissel said compared to the United States, the Canadian government isn't doing its fair share to make post-secondary education more available to Canadians.

"Our American counterparts spend over \$300 more per student than the government in Canada does."

*Mark Kissel,
CASA national director*

"Our American counterparts spend over \$300 more per student than government in Canada does," he said.

In 1993, Ottawa spent \$143 per student on post-secondary education while Washington spent \$360 and the gap increased by 1998 when Canada spent \$144 for each student while Washington contributed \$500 per student.

To tackle the problem CASA compiled a list of concerns post-secondary students have with the education system.

The association wants the federal government to start rebuilding campus infrastructure and restoring the Canadian health and social

transfer after the government's cut-backs to core funding to post-secondary institutions stretched resources thinly.

"The cost of delivering an education to students is constantly rising in the face of decreased government support for post-secondary education," said Kissel.

"If urgent infrastructure issues are not addressed in the near future, the cost of repairing Canada's post-secondary education institutions will continue to rise," he said.

CASA recommends the government supply an infusion of funding to allow universities and colleges to repair and upgrade campus infrastructure. Kissel said schools need \$1.2 million urgently.

The association also wants the federal government to help minimize student debt.

"Quite simply, there is no better time than now for the federal government to take more steps towards creating a student loan program," said Kissel. "A program that is accessible to all and does not leave Canadian students with the legacy of an unmanageable debt loan."

Kissel said the government needs to commit to instituting interest rates of Prime +2 per cent for a fixed rate student loan. He said the government also needs to commit to selecting a service bureau that has a proven track record and the infrastructure available to provide students with efficient and effective service, clear communication, a genuine interest in helping students and a commitment to administer the new federal government direct lending student loan program.

Pool shark



Michelle Naugler, a first-year arts and health option student, uses a break between classes on Sept. 7 to play pool and mingle in the Sanctuary.
(Photo By Tammy Somerville)

A night of fun to stop drinking and driving

By Paul Kostal

It was supposed to be a fun night to welcome new and returning students to Conestoga College.

"There will usually be one pub night a month," said Ramy Michael, vice-president of student affairs for the Doon Student Association acting as Conestoga Students Inc. "This is our first of the year."

It was supposed to be a night to help stop drinking and driving.

"There are two buses leaving from the residence at 9," Michael said. "We do this to try and help stop drinking and driving."

It was supposed to be the start of a new relationship between the college's campuses.

"This is the first year that CSI is representing other campuses," Michael said. "There is a bus leaving from the Waterloo and the Guelph campus."

Thursday, Sept. 9 ended up being a lot more complicated than just that though. Two buses left from the college's residence carrying around 100 college students around 9 p.m. but when they arrived at the Waterloo bar, Loose Change Louie's, they were greeted by a lineup of hundreds of university students already extending metres outside the front door.

Thursday night was also Wilfrid Laurier's pub night. And the Laurier students had already filled the bar and lined up outside the bar.

"We drove here to meet them, and then they never even got off the bus," said Keri Thompson, a first-year LASA student. "They just drove away."

According to Michael, when the buses arrived at the Waterloo bar, students began exiting the bus, even though they were told they were on their own as far as entry into the bar was concerned if they left the bus.

Michael said wristbands and stamps were then given to the students who remained on the buses. Students who attempted to get back on the buses were denied access. The buses, in order to avoid a traffic ticket for obstructing the road then pulled into an adjacent parking lot, and that, said Michael, is where the confusion came in.

"The buses were never sent home," he said.

Mike Harris, student vice-president of academics, said everyone who stayed on the bus was let into the bar through a side door.

Some students decided to go to a different bar and made arrangements with the bus to be dropped off and picked up at Philthy McNasty's, just down the road from Loose Change Louie's.

The buses returned to pick up the students at midnight and at 2 a.m. as scheduled.

Michael said he ran the buses last year and never saw anything like what happened on Sept. 9.

Because the student association now represents students from Guelph and Waterloo campuses as well as Doon, Thursday's pub night was to mark the first time students from the satellite campuses joined their Doon counterparts in an organized social event. However, because of lack of interest from both the Waterloo and Guelph campuses, buses were not contracted to pick up and deliver students from either location, said Michael.

Whether or not the satellite campuses will take part in entertainment activities in the future remains to be seen, said Michael. Representatives from those campuses were more concerned about academic representation than social events when they asked the student association to represent them, he said.

The next bus trip was scheduled for Thursday, Sept. 9 to Fiddler's Green, a bar in Cambridge.

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COUNSELLOR'S CORNER: Roommates

Sharing living space with a stranger, or even a friend, can be quite different from living with your family. Things as simple as how long you stay in the shower or where to keep the potato chips can cause tensions between people who aren't used to living together. So how can you ease the transition from family life to living with a roommate?

One way to avoid conflicts is to establish some ground rules. For instance, does it drive you nuts if the dirty dishes are still in the sink the next morning? Or do you have a "high dirt tolerance" that will have your roommate gnashing her teeth by the end of September?

Some areas to discuss include:

- ◆ space: private versus common areas
- ◆ food costs: shared? designated fridge space?
- ◆ quiet hours for morning, study time and at night
- ◆ guest policy

Living with a roommate isn't all about rules and compromises, but it'll be much easier to set guidelines now, before you start getting on each other's nerves.

A Message from Student Services (Room 2B02)

The Watcher not worth watching

Latest Keanu Reeves movie fails to deliver spine-chilling thrills

By Petra Lampert

The Watcher, directed by Joe Charbanic and released by Universal Pictures, hit movie theatres on Sept. 8. Although the film is a thriller and rated AA, it's about as thrilling as a trip to the dentist.

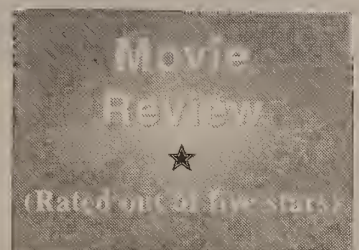
James Spader plays traumatized FBI agent Joel Campbell who has gone into hiding.

After years of pursuing killers in Los Angeles, Campbell is burned out and moves to Chicago in an attempt to start over.

Unfortunately his hopes of leading a peaceful life are thwarted when serial killer David Allen Griffin, played by Keanu Reeves, follows him from Los Angeles to Chicago and the gruesome killings resume.

The cunning and deviant Griffin, who has managed to elude the agent for years in Los Angeles, once again begins playing a deadly

game of cat and mouse with Campbell. Before each murder the killer taunts Campbell by sending a photograph of his next victim and dares Campbell to find her before he strikes again.



Marisa Tomei plays Polly, a psychologist who tries to help a shell-shocked Campbell get back on his feet, but ends up being one of Griffin's victims. Campbell must play Griffin's game if he hopes to save Polly.

The Watcher is not worth watching, at least by anyone with a

beating pulse. The story line is weak and the plot leaves much to be desired. The characters are shallow and underdeveloped, and the ending is disappointingly predictable.

Overall this film is boring and not worth paying money to see on the big screen or even on video. After the second murder one feels as though remaining in the theatre to watch the end of the film would be a huge waste of time. And it is.

The only highlight in the entire film is a chase scene when police finally corner Griffin.

The Watcher is about as exciting as watching grass grow and will leave audiences wishing they had stayed home.

The one star rating is for Reeves who amazingly manages to look good throughout the entire film despite the fact that he is portraying a demented and haunted psychopath.



Keanu Reeves terrorizes Marisa Tomei in The Watcher. (Universal Pictures Internet photo)

Yuk Yuk's club in Kitchener delivers big laughs

By Jody Andruszkiewicz

Funnier than a Scary Movie, and delivering more jabs than a Lennox Lewis fight, the comedians that frequent Mark Breslin's Yuk Yuk's at the Walper Pub in downtown Kitchener are really something to laugh at.

And laughter is the one thing in abundance in the 140-seat room, which features pictures of all the performers that have graced the stage in the world's largest comedy chain.

Mark Breslin opened Yuk Yuk's comedy club in Toronto in 1978 for \$50,000, and at one point, they expanded from London to Hawaii.

The Kitchener location, one of the 14 located across Canada, opened in 1985 at the Conestoga Inn and operated at the same location until its move to the Walper Pub on Feb. 4 this year.

Over the years, Yuk Yuk's has opened its doors for Canadian comedians Howie Mandel, Jim Carrey, Norm MacDonald and Mike Bullard as well as American comedians Jerry Seinfeld and Roseanne Barr.

On Saturday, Sept. 9, comedians Sean Collins and Chris Quigley brought their talents to the stage, eliciting raucous laughter from the crowd.

Collins, a native of Carleton Place, opened the show and quickly had the audience laughing at his acidic wit in dealing with a heckler.

The 34-year-old Collins, nominated for the 1999 Canadian Club Comic of the Year, wasted little time in dealing with topics rang-

ing from drug use during camping trips to masturbation to women.

"I'm never going to be a PG comic," Collins said in an interview after the show. "I want people at the show who won't be offended."

He also said he relies on personal experiences, and there's always an element of truth in his act. Collins said he's more comfortable with his act than when he started nine years ago.

"I'm not a one-liner comic. I like bringing people into my world."

With his laid back, sit-down-and-talk-to-the-crowd style, Collins, who cites Richard Pryor as his idol, easily accomplishes the task of bringing people into his world.

After Collins left the stage, Quigley picked up where his predecessor left off, keeping the crowd in stitches. But where Collins is laid back, the 27-year-old Quigley is anything but.

Relying on sight gags in his act, the Oakville native dealt with subjects ranging from strip clubs to eating out to Dr. Seuss.

Saying his act has gotten better over the past seven years, Quigley also said he keeps practising. "None of the jokes are ever complete. The work is never done."

And while he didn't have to contend with the heckler Collins did, Quigley said he tries not to talk to them.

"Each heckler is pretty much the same. There are not too many original hecklers."

Shows start on Fridays at 8:30 p.m. and at 8 and 10 p.m. on Saturdays. Admission is \$12.

GROUPS AND WORKSHOPS SCHEDULE

Fall Semester 2000

Gay/ Lesbian/ Bisexual/ Transgendered Discussion & Networking Group	TBA
Multicultural Support Group	Week of Oct. 2
Suicide Prevention Workshop	Week of Oct. 2
Relaxation Group	Week of Oct. 9
Public Speaking Anxiety Group	Week of Oct. 23
Test Anxiety Group	Week of Oct. 30
Stress Management Workshop	Week of Nov. 6

Study Skills Workshops

Time Management	Oct. 2	11:30-12:30	3A621
Listening and Note-taking	Oct. 16	12:30-1:30	3A616
Multiple Choice Tests	Oct. 25	12:30-1:30	3A621
	Oct. 30	12:30-1:30	3A616
Effective Textbook Reading	Nov. 6	12:30-1:30	3A616
Multiple Choice Tests	Nov. 15	11:30-12:30	3A616
Preparing for Final Exams	Dec. 4	12:30-1:30	3A616
	Dec. 6	12:30-1:30	3A621

Please inquire about and sign up at least one week in advance for the above groups or workshops in Student Services, Room 2B02.

Creating artistic funk

Local group thrills audience with sounds

By Jody Andruszkiewicz

Opus Creo, Latin for "to create a work of art", artfully displayed their talents with their homegrown brand of alternative funk rock in the Mecca, at the Walper Pub, on Sept. 6.

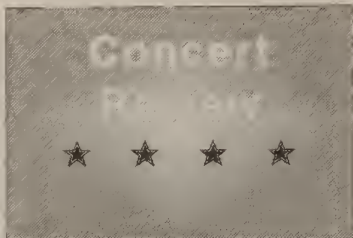
The Kitchener-based group played selections from their upcoming six-song EP, scheduled to be ready on CD by the end of October, and other original works, plus some covers for the 25 people at the concert.

Arriving 30 minutes behind schedule, the band quickly set up. Ready for their 90-minute set, they began to jam and generally play around with sounds for the now-captive audience.

Opus Creo, whose members live together, played with intensity and displayed ingenuity and creativity in evoking a wide variety of sounds from their instruments leaving the audience completely focused on those standing onstage.

And this stellar effort did not go unnoticed by those in attendance. The band received loud cheers and applause between songs but the audience saved their loudest ovation for the last song, when the band let loose with brilliant and vibrant guitar work, vocals and drumming.

Opus Creo was formed when 25-year-old drummer Chris Pachereva and 25-year-old guitarist-vocalist Brandy Miller's



band Hardden Creek fell apart and 23-year-old bassist Liam Pigott and 23-year-old guitarist-vocalist Ian Starchuck were added to round out the new band.

Opus Creo played with intensity and displayed ingenuity and creativity in evoking a wide variety of sounds from their instruments leaving the audience completely focused on those standing onstage.

All four attended Cameron Heights high school in Kitchener from 1991 – 96.

According to Miller, "doing what you want, when you want, is the best part. The money is totally a bonus."

Pigott, who left work on a cargo ship to join the band, said he has fun when he's working and even when he's not.

Pachereva said packing and unpacking are one of the hardest parts for the band.

Starchuck added staying motivated about moving around to different venues without getting comfortable in one spot for too long is another challenge for the band.

In addition to the hardships of band life, Miller said the worst place Opus Creo has ever played was Cagney's in Hamilton.

"It was a total hick bar. They asked us to leave after one set."

Even though the band was paid in full after their one set, the night started off on the wrong foot.

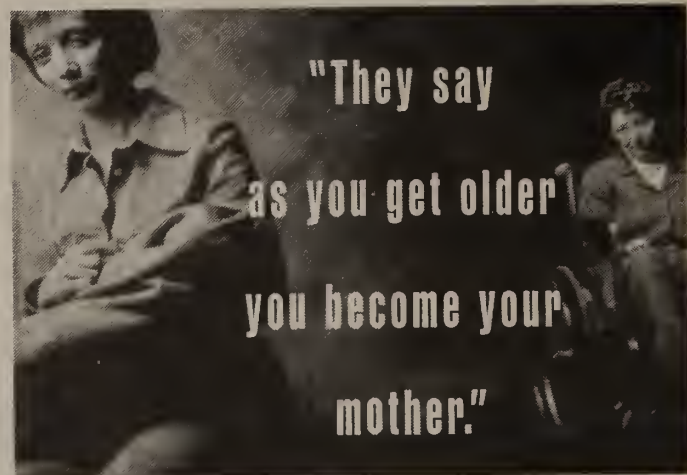
The group realized they had left mucky-needed equipment at home and had to spend over \$100 to replace it.

Starchuck said their most exotic gig was playing a benefit party for an orphanage run by the biker gang Satan's Choice. Miller estimated over 500 bikers were in attendance.

"We had to hold off on the rap."

Starchuck said when their self-titled CD, recorded at Small Dog Studios in Kitchener, is released, they want to go right back into the studio to begin recording again.

Opus Creo can be found Thursday nights playing at the Circus Room on King street in downtown Kitchener.



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Get 'ultimate' with frisbee sport

New co-ed intramural game flies

By Dwight Irwin

This game of Frisbee doesn't belong on the beach.

Ultimate Frisbee is this year's new co-ed intramural sport at Conestoga College. It replaces touch football on the intramural schedule.

"We didn't have enough people showing up (for touch football). We thought we'd give Ultimate Frisbee a try," Conestoga College athletic co-ordinator Marlene Ford said.

"This game is so much better. You throw teams on a field, say, 'Here's a Frisbee', make sure somebody has a stopwatch and go out and play," she added, referring to the extras required for touch football, like first-down markers and officials.

Ultimate Frisbee, which is a cross between Frisbee and football, is a non-contact sport where two teams try to score on each other.

Players throw the Frisbee to teammates and try to work it down the field to the other team's end zone. One point is received for each 'touchdown.'

"You get a good workout playing Ultimate Frisbee," Ford said. "There is a lot of running and jumping. It takes athleticism, but it's also a laid-back sport."

Each game, which is played in two 20-minute halves, starts with a coin flip for possession. One team starts with the Frisbee in their end zone and throws it to the opposing team, who starts on offence.

"It's much like a kick-off," Ford said.

The person who catches the Frisbee cannot run with the disc. The person has 10 seconds to pass to a teammate, who runs around the field to get open.

The opposing team is on defence and tries to block or intercept passes.

The defence counts down the 10 seconds, in the 'one-steamboat, two-steamboat' fashion.

The offensive team keeps possession until the Frisbee is dropped, intercepted, or thrown out of bounds, or until a touchdown is scored.

Possession then changes hands, and the other team starts from where the disc hit the ground or went out of bounds.

There are no officials. Teams are responsible for calling their own fouls and when the Frisbee goes out of bounds.

"Team captains are responsible for calling fouls and for their team's behavior. If the teams don't agree on a call, instead of arguing, it will be replayed," Ford said.

Frisbee facts

- Each game is played in two 20-minute halves.
- One team starts with the Frisbee in their end zone and throws it to the opposing team, who starts on offence.
- There are no officials. Teams are responsible for calling their own fouls and out of bounds.

A team can have as many players as it wants, but only seven team members can be on the field at one time. Substitutions can only be made after a score or an injury.

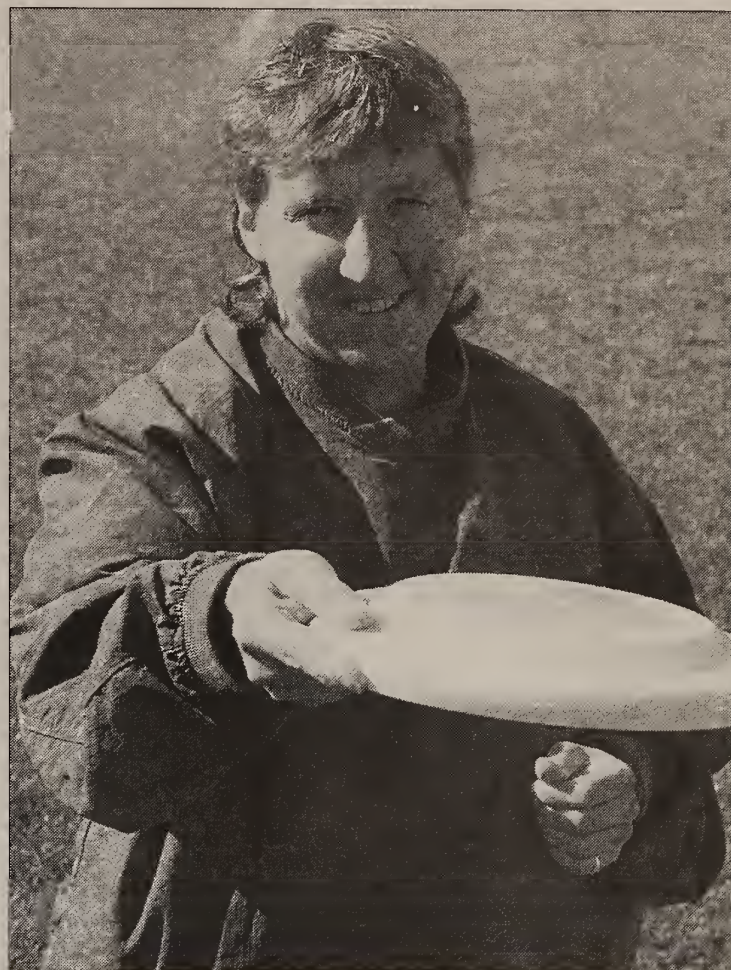
Ford is hoping there will be four to eight teams sign up for Ultimate Frisbee.

It will run for five or six weeks, depending on the weather.

There will be one game a week, and it will be played behind the tennis courts, which are next to the recreation centre.

Games start tonight, Monday, Sept. 18.

Playoffs will be held to determine the Ultimate Frisbee champion at the end of the season.



Marlene Ford, athletic co-ordinator at Conestoga College, is excited about this year's new intramural sport, Ultimate Frisbee. The sport is a cross between football and Frisbee. Games start Monday, Sept. 18. (Photo by Dwight Irwin)

Baseball is back

But college's women's softball team in desperate need of new pitchers

By Trevor Hilker

The Conestoga women's softball team's biggest need is a pitcher. The only legitimate pitcher they have couldn't make it to the first two games because she was attending a wedding so new head coach Mitch Keirstead told the players any player was welcome to pitch.

"We should be thinking of winning, but without pitching it will be hard," said Keirstead.

He added most of the players who are trying to pitch now could have been effective pitchers if they had started throwing like a pitcher when they were 10 or 11.

Once in a while a player can become an effective pitcher during her first season.

"Leigh Marostega learned on the job last season. She never pitched before and had a good season," he said.

Marostega lost the first four games of last season and won the last six. She is now an assistant coach for Conestoga.

Conestoga had only 13 of the 16 players Keirstead wanted going into the season opener against Cambrian. Keirstead wanted 16 players at each game, but may find the full roster if some players only want to play part time.

The unfortunate part about this league, Keirstead said, is that they lose a lot of potential players to

jobs and heavy workload at school.

This has been an unusual year for losing players, however. Keirstead said players will always be lost to graduation, but not usually to part-time jobs.

"I had an infield in mind (before try-outs), but I had to change it when some girls couldn't play this season," Keirstead said. "Our short stop from last season changed jobs over the summer and can't play, so I had to move the second baseman to short stop."

Only three players are returning from last season, including outfielder Lindsay Harrison, outfielder Korri Knox and first baseman Lori Walden.

Keirstead said he would have to use Knox as catcher for the first few games because they are in need of a catcher.

Keirstead said the team's offence and defence is fine, but the question is will they survive without pitching?

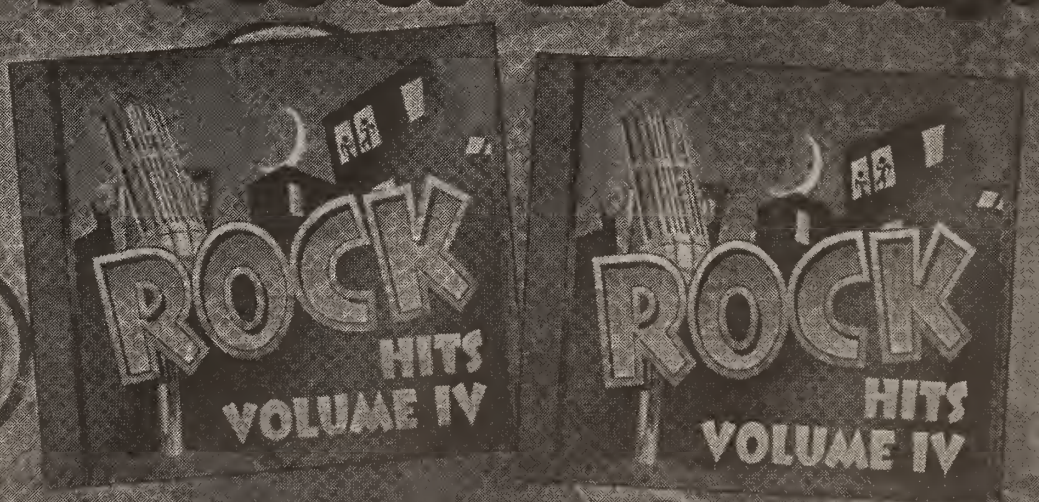
Keirstead is not impressed with the team's schedule because of the four road games to start the season.

"This is a rotten schedule," he said.

Conestoga played a game on Sept. 8 and 9 against Cambrian and will have a game in North Bay against Canador on the 15th and 16th.

Their first home game, however, does not come until Sept. 19 against Mohawk at 4:30 p.m.

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Big things expected from soccer rookies

By Derek Lester

Rookies will have to step up in order for the Conestoga Condors men's and women's varsity soccer teams to have good seasons this year.

Geoff Johnstone, coach of the men's soccer team, said he has only eight returning players this year, while the women's soccer coach, Stephanie DenHaan, said there are only three returning players this year for her team.

"It will be a rebuilding season," she added.

This is DenHaan's first year as the women's soccer coach, so she is not too sure of what to expect this season.

DenHaan played varsity soccer with Conestoga for four years, her last year being two years ago.

Johnstone, who coached the women's team for the past 12 years, said the team's strong point will probably be their defence.

The team had a rough season last

year missing the playoffs.

In an exhibition game Wednesday, Sept. 6, the women's team lost 3-0 to the under-17 Kitchener Spirit.

The women's regular season kicked off Monday, Sept. 11 in London against Fanshawe with a 3-2 loss.

The team will be cut to 20 players this week, said DenHaan.

The men's team will be cut to 18 players from over 40 players who have come out.

The team has been strong the last

couple of years, said Johnstone, and it will lose only one player, for sure, after this season.

This means the team will basically be together for two years, so next year should be a good season, he added.

Johnstone is also happy with the way the team is coming together and gelling so quickly.

This is a young team, but everyone has a lot of talent, and he said he hopes the team will have a good season.

The men's team lost in an exhibition game, however, Tuesday, Sept. 5, to the University of Waterloo in a 5-1 defeat.

The men's regular season started Wednesday, Sept. 13 in London against Fanshawe. They lost 2-1.

Johnstone has coached the men's varsity soccer team for the past 28 years.

His teams have won 23 Ontario medals during his time as coach, and he would like to see this talented team win one as well.

Intramurals at Doon keep students active

By Dwight Irwin

The semester's first session of intramural sports at Conestoga College will keep students' hearts pounding.

Marlene Ford, athletic co-ordinator for Conestoga, said she hopes new programs will be well received by students.

One of the new intramural sports is pickup basketball, which is being held every Monday and Wednesday, from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., in the gymnasium, at the recreation centre. Student participa-

tion is free.

"This is the time to go out, have a fun game of basketball and meet other people interested in the sport."

"This is the time to go out, have a fun game of basketball and meet other people interested in the sport."

Marlene Ford,
athletic co-ordinator

Anybody who wants to play can just show up," Ford said.

A co-ed slo-pitch league, starts today, Monday, Sept. 18 and runs

until the middle of October.

For people more comfortable on the hard court than the diamond, a tennis tournament will be held on

Tuesday, Sept. 19, at the college's tennis courts.

Sign-up sheets for the tournament are posted around the college, the

CSI office and the recreation centre. It will either be a single or double-knockout tournament, depending on the number of registrants.

Try-outs are also being held for an extramural men's fastball team, which will face other colleges in a tournament, on Friday, Oct. 6. The tournament is being held at Conestoga College.

Try-outs began on Sept. 14 and will continue on Sept. 20 and 26, at 4:30 p.m., at Diamond 3.

The try-outs are also open to women, whether they are on the varsity fastball team, or not.

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